

Idaho Chapter Newsletter-LCTHF

May 2017



Photo by Steve Lee

Kris Townsend's Presentation

By Kris Townsend

Kris Townsend gave a photo journalism talk on Feb. 11, 2017 at the Nez Perce National Historical Park at Spalding, ID. His presentation was entitled "Photo Journalism on the LC Trail: An Adventure Worth Sharing." Kris shared journal entries and matching photographs while telling the stories it took to capture them—from what the Expedition experienced to what he had to do to replicate the experience. He focused most on the Upper Missouri River, Lolo Trail, and Clearwater River segments. Of local interest, he will include some of his photos of trail researcher Gene Eastman's proposed route down to Hungery Creek, a handmade wooden drift boat, and John Fisher's quest for 'canoe' logs on the Clearwater River. He also showed us his drone and discussed recent drone photography and video of the Lolo Trail. We celebrated Pomp's birthday with a cake after the presentation.



Photo by Laurie Brown

Kris and his drone

Lolo Pass Weekend July 7-8th

By Chuck Raddon

A weekend of Lewis and Clark exploration in the Lolo Pass area will be held Friday July 7th and Saturday July 8th. On Friday, an informal presentation on the Lolo Trail will be given from 10 am to 2 pm at the Lolo Pass Visitor Center. Chuck Raddon is coordinating the presentations. All chapter members are invited to attend and

assist. After the visitor center presentation ends at 2 pm Chuck will lead a tour of the Lewis and Clark Lolo Pass/ Packer Meadows sites and possible sites. Not everyone agrees with the “officially” designated campsite of Sept 13, 1805 – in Packer Meadows. Everyone is invited to attend and make your own interpretation of where they camped.

Friday night Chuck will present a slide show at Powell Campground: When History Bumps into itself on the Lolo Trail. The show will be given in the Powell Campground outdoor theater starting just before dark.

Saturday Chuck and Penny will lead a tour of Lewis and Clark sites including Colt Killed Camp, Rocky Point Lookout (view the sea of mountains), 13 Mile Camp and Snowbank Camp – if they are snow-free.

Chuck and Penny will be camping in Powell Campground from Thursday night, July 6 to Saturday night July 8th. You can make a reservation for Powell Campground or stay at Lochsa Lodge ([208-942-3405](tel:208-942-3405)). For more information contact Chuck or Penny at [208-476-3123](tel:208-476-3123).

Lolo Work Week

By Geoff Billin

The August 2017 work week is shaping up. We have 21 people signed up; most participated in previous years. Our tasks this year include restoring signs and maintaining trails.

We will reinstall signs at Swordfern Camp (Bald Mountain), Smoking Place, Saddle Camp (3 signs), Howard Camp, and Indian Postoffice. The signs are about four by five feet and hang from massive timber frames. We are replacing those frames; it involves digging holes for the posts and erecting 150-pound cross pieces across the tops of the posts eight feet above ground. It's not for the faint of heart or weak of back, but we will have a tractor with auger, backhoe, and bucket to help.

Trail work along roughly twenty miles of trail will have as its first priority removing trees that block the trail. Last year we found an average of 13 trees or groups of trees in each mile. Some can be pulled out of the way, some are small enough to be cut with hand saws, and some will require a chain saw. Some undergrowth will have regrown since our last trips along the trail so we will be lopping branches and clipping brush and undergrowth. And there may be places where we will rehabilitate the trail tread, for instance repairing water bars and rolling grade dips.

As in previous years we will camp at NoSeeUm Meadows, about eighteen miles (which translates to about two hours) from the nearest gravel roads. Every worker participates in camp chores which makes the work go faster. At the end of a long work day there's an opportunity to rest and relax around the campfire.

There may be time for day hikes nearby. (Yes, we do trail maintenance on the hikes.) A favorite is a short trip out NoSeeUm Ridge. This year there may have an opportunity for one of the workers to use an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle ("drone") to take pictures of the trail and workers from above.

Lolo Trail Maps Now Available Online

Submitted by Jim Fazio

After 30 years of research, Dr. Steve Russell is publishing his maps and research findings on The Internet Archive, a non-profit web site dedicated to the preservation of society's cultural artifacts. Contributed documents at the site are accessible to the public at no charge.

Russell, now retired, was raised in the Lochsa River country before earning degrees in electrical engineering and joining the faculty of Iowa State University. He has used his summers to hike and do field work for his research on Lewis & Clark's route and other historic trails throughout the West. His resulting documents can now be found at Archive.org by entering "Steve F. Russell" in the

search box. Archived material includes maps and documents of the Lewis & Clark trail route and camp sites across western Montana and Idaho; estimates of where the ‘lost campsite’ of September 4, 1805 was located near Lost Trail Pass; Ordway’s side trip from Kamiah to the Salmon River; and the later Bird-Truax Trail that sometimes coincides with the old Lolo Trail but more often confuses history-seeking visitors as do many ‘modern’ trails constructed by the Forest Service and elk hunters.

Russell’s methods included study of all the journals kept by men of the Lewis & Clark expedition, as well as the work of later historians, aerial photographs, and a careful ground search for remnants of the trail made by the Nez Perce Indians and followed by the explorers. As a final stage of his research, Russell and two assistants re-traced the route, marking its location with a precision GPS survey instrument and transferring the data to the maps that appear on the archive site. The precision maps even include symbols for those places where the historic trail tread is still visible.

“No one has done more careful research on the location of the Lewis & Clark trail route and camp sites than Steve Russell,” said Jim Fazio of Moscow, a past president of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. “We owe a debt of gratitude to Steve not only for his research, but especially for generously making the results available to everyone on The Internet Archive. The trail is a valuable part of our heritage and makes an important contribution to cultural tourism and historic preservation.”

The Lolo Trail was used for hundreds of years by Nez Perce travelers going between the Clearwater River Valley and the Bitterroot Valley. After the introduction of the horse in the early 1700s, they traveled to the buffalo country of what is now central Montana and the Musselshell River. Lewis & Clark followed the route in 1805 and 1806. Today, the entire trail on public land on the Nez Perce-Clearwater and Lolo National Forests, is designated as a National Historic Landmark and protected from uses that would destroy the historic tread, the camp sites or the immediate surroundings. Other segments cross private land and some state land.

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To contact Steve Russell: 515-450-7630
steve@dustychords.org

A Workshop

Toward the 50th Anniversary of the
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
with funding through the

Idaho Governor's Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee, and support of the Idaho Chapter of LCTHF

Conducting an Oral History Interview

Why – How – What – Where – Who – When?

Thursday, May 18th, 10am – 4pm
City Hall Conference Room, 829 5th St
Clarkston, WA

Open to anyone interested in learning the standards, methods and techniques for conducting viable historic interviews and ensuring their preservation and access for research

Workshop will focus on the need to document the history of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and its Chapters, but is relevant to any historical project

Topics:

Developing goals for a project
Preparing for an Interview
Equipment for an Interview
Conducting the Interview
Tasks after the Interview
Preservation
Ethics, Legalities and Access

To Reserve a Spot, or for questions, contact Sue Buchel , Project Director, at retireinmt@yahoo.com or [406-788-8923](tel:406-788-8923) by May 15th.

Room for 16 participants only.

This training is free, we will break for quick lunch. Coffee, tea, and lemonade provided. Thanks Sue for the information!

Announcements

We have a couple of new features on our website. There is an aerial drone video of Pheasant Camp taken by Kris Townsend last October. It's a pretty neat video.

There is also an article from Ford Times, 1952, on the Lewis and Clark Highway (an incomplete version of Highway 12) along the Lochsa and Selway Rivers. The website is lewis-clark-idaho.org.

CHAPTER WEBSITES

The Chapter website may have information you may be interested in. Listed below are the main areas of interest.

Home page <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org>:

Lolo Work Week 2017 information

Lolo Work Week Slide show

Links to Lolo Work Week photo galleries

L&C in Idaho:

Interactive Google Map: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/sites>

Pine Creek to Lenore by Chuck Raddon: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/features/peck.php>

Coulter Creek by Chuck Raddon: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/features/potlatch.php>

L and C in Orofino by Chuck Raddon: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/features/orofino.php>

Chapter Calendar: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/events>

Newsletters:

Select Feature Articles: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/news/features.php>

All issues since 1986: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/news/index.php>

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 3 Saturday Wallula Gap hike with geologist Bruce Bjornstad, sponsored by REACH. Contact <http://visitthereach.org/2017-tours/>

June 3 Saturday National Trails Day and 12:00 -4:00 PM Old Fashioned Day at Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center near Pasco with potluck at 12:00 PM, plus games, family events, no Discover Pass needed.

June 10-11 – Fur Trade Encampment and Symposium at Riverside State Park Spokane House Interpretative Center, Highway 291 Nine Mile Falls, Washington..

July 7/8 –Friday/Saturday Pacific Northwest Living Historians have a 2 day First Person encampment at the Columbia River Quarantine Station at Knappton Cove.

July 14 – Friday Snake River jet boat and bus tour with geologist Bruce Bjornstad from Richland to Windust Park and Palouse Falls, sponsored by REACH. <http://visitthereach.org/2017-tours/>

July 21-26, 2017 – Foundation 49th Annual meeting Billings, Montana, see Pompey’s Pillar National Monument, Clarks 1806 Canoe Camp and 1806 Yellowstone River Horse crossing, more information here: <http://rochejhone.weebly.com/>

July 30 – August 5 Lolo Trail work week, starting at NoSeeUm Meadows and continuing on ridge line trail. For more information contact the Idaho Chapter at <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org>

September 23 Saturday 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM Columbia Gorge Geology field trip sponsored by the Ice Age Flood Institute, start and end at Cascade Locks Marine Park, see the IAFI website site for tickets and more information, or call Lloyd DeKay at [713-542-4359](tel:713-542-4359)

September 29-30 Friday/Saturday – Living history at Heritage Days at Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center near Pasco. Also National Public Lands Day.

2017 Chapter dues are \$10.00 per individual. The Idaho dues form is on the last page of this newsletter. We are a 501 (c) 3 and donations are tax deductible.

Members are also encouraged to join the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Here is the link for the Foundation dues website.

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=lewisandclark&id=8>

And at last, the dues page. If you have not submitted your Idaho dues yet this year, please do so. Your dues help to pay for our programs and fees incurred during the year.

Thank you for reading the newsletter!!

Laurie Brown

Idaho Chapter President

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

Idaho Chapter Dues Form

Be a part of the journey of discovery! Join the Idaho Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Dues are \$10.00 per person.

Make your check payable to: Idaho Chapter LCTHF.

Send this membership form, along with a check to:

Holly Crawley
7325 South 5th West
Idaho Falls, ID 83404

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Thank you. Your dues are appreciated!